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Newsletter

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Thanks

... to those who attended this week's Junior Swimming Sports.
... to those who attended our Secondary 1 Cambridge meeting this week.
... to those who supported our swimmers at this week's interschool event.

People of the Week

... Our junior swimmers .. and their teachers!

Term calendar ... *More to follow as dates come to hand!*

17 March	Year 7 and 8 vaccinations
21-24 March	Year 5 and 6 camp to Russell
22 March	Middle School Summer Sports Tournament (year 4 only)
29 March	Easter Tuesday - a School Holiday
4 April	Hockey coaching sessions start
5 April	Mighty Maui Puppet Show
14 April	Snow White Show
15 April	Final day for term 1

Whanau Group BBQ

Our school whanau group will meet by the pool 3:15pm Thursday 17 March for a swim and sausage sizzle. Any interested families are welcome to join them.

Lit Quiz

A lit quiz house competition for children years 4 to 8 will be held on 31 March. Expressions of interest will be sought from children at a meeting to be held on 16 March. Ultimately we will select our year 6 and 8 interschool teams from the school competition.

If your child loves literature, and has a keen mind for 'literature facts', please encourage them to take part.

School Duathlon Competitions

Please note that the individual and team duathlons will now take place on the days shown below. Both events start 12:45 PM and finish around 1:30 PM.

Individual Duathlon ... Tuesday 15 March

Team Duathlon ... Wednesday 16 March

This is an entirely optional event. We will meet with children at lunchtime tomorrow to confirm registrations. If children already have their bikes at school we are happy to store these in the hall until their event.

Children will need shoes, helmet and their bike (individual event) in order to participate. Parents are most welcome to come along to support on the day. The event takes place on the lower field.

Easter Tuesday

Please note there is no school on Tuesday 29th March 2016. This is an annual holiday for all schools.

WPSSA Swimming Results

Below are listed the top 10 placings Matarau children from the Whangarei district Zone Swimming achieved this week. An awesome effort by all these children and by the others who swam but didn't place in the top 10. Some very good results against some very competitively trained swimmers.

Yr 4 Girls - Mila - Backstroke 7th, Freestyle 10th
Morgan - Breaststroke 5th
Yr 4 Boys - Caden - Breaststroke 5th
Y5 Girls - Ava - Backstroke 9th Breaststroke 6th
Yr 5 Boys - Asher - Backstroke 3rd, Freestyle 4th
Hazza - Freestyle 2nd, Backstroke 7th, Breaststroke 6th
Y7 Girls - Jaimee - Backstroke 6th, Freestyle 3rd
Y7 Boys - Connan - Backstroke 10th
Brendan - Breaststroke 7th
Yr 8 Boys Bringham - Breaststroke 7th, Freestyle 10th
Conal - Backstroke 10th, Breaststroke 9th
Year 5 Girls & Boys Freestyle Relay - 1st place - an awesome result!

Important safety message

We have received concerns about vehicles parked on Matarau Road near the main carpark entrance. Sometimes these vehicles are parked part on the grass and part on the road, meaning that other vehicles are crossing the centre line to get past. Visibility is poor here and we have had vehicle collisions at this location before.

So .. if parking in the vicinity of the carpark entrance, please be sure to be parked safely, away from the entrance, and well off the road. *Please note that the owners of the property next to the carpark have requested that no-one parks on the grass verge in front of their property.*

A reminder also that yellow painted areas in the carpark are NO PARKING zones ... even if just for a moment. Most parents are doing an awesome job at maintaining steady (and safe) traffic flow during drop off times.

Children / Babies

If you have business at school and have a pre-schooler with you probably best not to leave them in the car in this heat. Parents are most welcome to use the staffroom if you need to wait for even a short while

Reminders from last week

... we are currently as "on top" of the headlice situation as it is possible to be .. parents are asked to check their children's hair weekly and to react promptly in the event of infestation.

... please continue to show an interest in learning support and options programmes ... ask your children what they are learning, what their current goals are, and let us know of any problems.

... out of fairness to other families the board requests that all families pay their school contributions if possible. **If feeling financially stretched at the moment parents are welcome to contact Kevin to discuss alternative payment arrangements. You will find us accommodating and discreet.**

Senior Vaccinations

A reminder that vaccinations are scheduled for Thursday 17 March - boostrix vaccinations for children receiving them at school year 7 and the Year 8 girls HPV vaccinations. Vaccinations will be administered shortly after 9:00am in the school library by the Public Health Nurse team.

A new service for year 7 and 8 students

As you know our year 7 and 8 teachers oversee senior study time in room 11 from 3:00 to 4:00pm every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. This is for year 7 and 8 students only and is an opportunity for students to do assigned homework in a quiet study space with support where needed. There is no cost to parents. This programme is open to students on both the full Cambridge and mixed programmes.

Students may attend only one or all three sessions at the discretion of their parents. Parents will need to pick their children up at 4:00pm on the dot please.

If you would like your child to participate in the study support programme you can register them next week by emailing Mrs Donaldson on kdonaldson@matarau.school.nz

Cambridge Meeting ... parents of year 7 and 8 students

If you were unable to attend this meeting our Year 7 and 8 teachers are more than willing to answer any questions you might have. The advantages accruing from combining Cambridge with the NZ Curriculum are even more significant than we imagined, and we are finding plenty of opportunities for sport, relationships and fun along the way. While we have certainly "lifted the bar" children seem to be coping well. Class numbers 30% lower than many year 7 and 8 city schools is providing significant opportunities for personalised and targeted teaching.

Year 7 and 8 Options Programme

Thank you for the very positive feedback we have had on our senior options programme. The options programme is not a "clubs" programme .. while it is lots of fun it is also serious learning. Most of the options have potential to lay the foundations for further learning at secondary and beyond.

Needing help with your child's digital device?

Mr D is happy to answer any questions you might have. He is at school Tuesdays and Fridays (Tuesday best day if dropping by) or he can be contacted via our school email.

International Schools English and Maths Competitions

Consent forms for the above competitions were sent out last week. If you would like your child to participate in these programmes, and you have not received a consent form, please contact the school office. The English Exam is scheduled for 2 August and the Maths Exam for 16 August.

Year 5 & 6 Camp

Any questions in the run up to camp to Mr Schuster please.

Scholastic Book Orders

Issue 1 orders will be delivered to classes early next week. Issue 2 has been cancelled due to technical issues within the Scholastic ordering/dispatching systems. There will be a bumper Issue3 coming out at the beginning of Term 2. Scholastic apologise for the inconvenience.

Incredible Years Parenting Programme

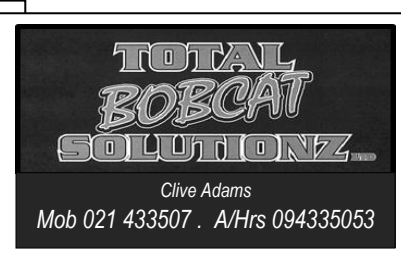
If interested in doing this programme please contact **phone Cassie on 021 2343 527 ASAP**

Finally

Joke from Jack .. Who's the king of the classroom? .. the ruler.

Joke from Jazz ... How fast do cavemen run? .. it depends on the size of the dinosaur.

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them



Regards ... *nga mihi*

Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Community Notices

Irish Dancing Lessons - Matarau School Hall, Wednesdays 4-5pm weekly. \$10 per lesson, first lesson free.
Contact Teresa Walker - 021 165 9360

Circus Skills Classes - Mondays from 29 Feb 4pm-5.30pm - Youth Class 9 -18yrs olds, 5-8yr olds
Wednesdays from 2 March from 4pm- 5.30pm, More information text Abbe from Circus Kumarani on
0212375176 or email clark.abbe@gmail.com

Kamo Junior Rugby is registering players for the 2016 season

To Register go online to www.sporty.co.nz/kamorsc and follow the instructions to Register. An alternative for parent & players who may have additional questions or are new to the club - you can register at the Kamo Rugby Club, Butler Place on Thursday 17th March between 6:00-8:00 pm.

Tikipunga Football Club - Midgets (4-8yr olds) & Juniors (9-17yr olds), Thursdays at 5pm. Contact
Melworth21@gmail.com or 021 0644 033 for more info.

